THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) This would be so if the dividend percentages are constant, but the amounts may not decline or could even increase if the dividend percentages go up due to higher profits.

(b) An amount of Rs. 4800 crores is estimated to be raised from disinvestment during 1997-98. The estimated revenue loss to the Govt. due to decline in dividend which the PSUs pay cannot be quantified as it depends on a number of variable factors.

Discriminating Treatment against Women Directors

3891. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in some of the companies women have been holding board level appointments as Director or Managing Director/ C&MD; and

(b) the details of such public sector companies existing under the administrative jurisdiction of his Ministry as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The post of Director (Personnel) in Bharat Aluminium Company Limited is presently held by a woman.

गुजरात में खनिज उद्योगों की उत्पादन क्षमता

3892. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गुजरात में खनिज उद्योगों की उत्पादन क्षमता का अद्यतन ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या ये खनिज उद्योग अपनी संस्थापित क्षमता के अमूल्य उत्पादन कर रहे हैं;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) उन खनिज उद्योगों का विवरण क्या है, जिन्होंने उत्पादन क्षमता में वृद्धि करने के लिए अनुमति मांगी थी; और

(ङ) आज तक ऐसे प्रत्येक अनुरोध पर क्या कार्रवाई की गई है?

इस्पात मंत्री तथा खान मंत्री (श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद बैश्य): (क) से (ङ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Gold Mines in Bhandara district of Maharashtra

3893. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Gold Mines had been identified in Bhandara District of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are reluctant to explore the possibilities of gold in Bhandara District; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof alongwith the difficulties being faced in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) No gold mine had yet been identified in Bhandara District of Maharashtra.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has undertaken investigation for gold in parts of Nagpur-Bhandara region in the following areas:— (i) Sakolia fold belt (ii) Pular — Parsori Mokabardi — Khapri — Tutanbari areas and (iii) Garawna — Madgi — Nerla and Chandori—Lakhuri areas.

(d) Question does not arise.

Revision of Royalty rates on Minerals

3894. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the factors and circumstances which prompted the Central Government to raise royalty rates of a host of minerals recently: and

(b) the impact thereof in terms of annual amount paid to the states on these minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) As per provisions of Section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957, the Central Government is empowered to enhance

or reduce the rates of royalty but no enhancement in the rates of royalty can be made more than once during any period of three years. With a view to have a royalty regime conducive to rapid development of the mineral sector and the need for augmenting the State revenues, the rates of royalty and dead rent in respect of major minerals (other than coal and lignite) have been revised vide notification dated 11.4.97. The revision of royalty rates was based on the recommendations of the Study Group which had gone into various relevant aspects and had also consulted the State Governments and the mining industry.

(b) Revenue accruals to the State Governments because of the recent revision of the royalty rates of major minerals (other than Coal and lignite) is expected to go up by more than Rs. 100 crores.

New deposits of minerals in Rajasthan and Orissa

3895. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India (GSI) have so far conducted any survey to find out the new deposits of minerals in the State of Rajasthan and in Orissa during the last three years till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the names of places where minerals deposits have been found with details of the minerals and their estimated quantities therein State-wise;

(d) by when Government propose to start extracting these minerals; and

(e) whether Government propose to have any private sector participation therein?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted survey and exploration to find out new minerals deposits in the states of Rajasthan and Orissa during last three years.

(b) and (c) The details of new mineral deposits explored in Rajasthan and Orissa are given in the statement. (*See* below).

(d) and (e) Any exploration/exploitation agency in public and private sectors is free to exploit the mineral reserves after getting prospecting licence/mining lease in accordance with the provisions of Mines & Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 and the rules made thereunder and in the light of the National Mineral Policy 1993.

Statement

Details of new mineral deposits explored in Rajasthan and Orissa

Area		Ore Reserves/ resources	Average Grade
Rajasthan			
I. Gold			
(i)	Bhukia Banswara distt., Rajasthan	2.49 m.t. (Primary Ore)	1.5-3.00 gm/t
(ii)		0.252 m.t. (Oxidised ore)	1.7-2.0 gm/t
(iii)	Pindwara-Watera belt Sirohi distt.	1.193 m.t.	Au-0.5-0. 71 ppm Cu-0. 8% Zn-3-3.5%
II. Basemetal			
(i)	North Sindesar Ridge, Rajsamand distt.	17.34 m.t.	3.47-5. 17% Pb+Zn 48 ppm AgO 140 ppm Cd.